

REMARKS

Applicant appreciates the interview provided by the Examiner. In response to the interview claims 1-37 are amended in order to clarify the invention.

STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-37 are pending.

Claim 38 has been newly added. New claim 38 is supported by the specification and drawings. No new matter is entered.

Claims 27 and 35 are withdrawn from consideration.

Claims 1, 4, 7, 10, 13, 16, 19, 22, 25-26, 28-30, 33-34, and 36-37 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shi (USP 6,507,740) in view of Frank et al. (Re. 37,757).

Claims 2-3, 5-6, 8-9, 11-12, 17-18, 20-21, 23-24, and 31-32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shi (USP 6,507,740) in view of Frank et al. (Re. 37,757) and further in view of Balachandran (USP 5,594,943).

OVERVIEW OF CLAIMED INVENTION

The presently claimed invention provides for a system and method limiting unnecessarily frequent handoffs in a mobile communication system, thus enhancing the probability of successful maintenance of a stable call condition.

The handoff method of the present invention is achieved by varying a handoff threshold, which is set in a mobile station, based on a quality-versus-threshold table, said quality-versus-

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threshold table having handoff threshold values and corresponding link quality values, and corresponding to the quality of a wireless link between the mobile station and a currently controlling base station and by subsequently performing a handoff based on the variable threshold.

In the Claims

Claim 38 provide features not suggested in the cited references. For example neither reference teaches counting a frequency of handoffs to each adjacent base station. Frank only determines whether a hand-off is requested as shown in task 118 (Frank). In contrast applicant's claim recites both a counting table and a hand-off limiting unit.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

With regards to independent claims 1, 4, 7, 10, 13, 16, 19, 22, and 30, the Examiner has again referenced Shi as providing for a handoff varying unit varying a handoff threshold set in one of said at least one mobile station (MS). However as discussed in the Examiner interview Shi fails to teach the features of at least the quality-versus-threshold table, said quality-versus-threshold table comprising handoff threshold values and corresponding link quality values.

With regards to remaining dependant claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12, 14, 15, 17, 18, 20, 21, 23-26, 28, 29, 31-34, 36, and 37, the above-mentioned arguments apply substantially in that at least the elements inherited from independent claims, upon which they depend.

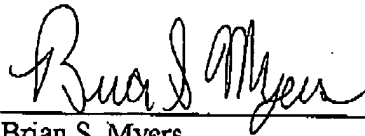
SUMMARY

As has been detailed above, none of the references, cited or applied, provide for the specific claimed details of applicants' presently claimed invention, nor renders them obvious. It is believed that this case is in condition for allowance and reconsideration thereof and early issuance is respectfully requested.

However, if the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,



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